

EVALUATING THE WORKFIRST PROGRAM: DATA ELEMENTS

Recorded data from the WorkFirst program is primarily designed to track information related to a client's eligibility and participation status. Data elements that reflect these measures are updated frequently. Other measures, such as marital status or level of education, may only be entered when the client enters the program or volunteers such information to a caseworker. To conform with wage data from the Unemployment Insurance files, all variables reported here are aggregated by calendar quarter.

CATEGORY	DATA ELEMENT	SOURCE
Demographic	<i>Age of Adult</i>	ACES
	<i>Age of Youngest Child</i>	ACES
	<i>Family Size:</i> Number of adults and children on cash assistance unit	ACES
	<i>Welfare History:</i> Total months ever received AFDC/TANF	ACES/Eligibility File
	<i>Total Welfare Spells:</i> Number of non-continuous spells on AFDC/TANF	ACES/Eligibility File
	<i>Current Welfare Spell:</i> Number of continuous months since last entry onto AFDC/TANF caseload	ACES/Eligibility File
	<i>Welfare Background:</i> Client considered NEW (no welfare history), CONTINUING (intermittent welfare history), or OLD (continuous welfare history)	ACES/Eligibility File
	<i>Grade:</i> Highest year of education completed	JAS
	<i>GED:</i> Client earned a General Educational Development certificate	JAS
	<i>Sex</i>	ACES
	<i>Marital Status:</i> (Married Living Apart, Divorced, Married Living With Spouse, Never Married, Separated, Legally Separated, Unknown, Widowed)	ACES
	<i>Program Code:</i> Single-Parent (Program R) or Two-Parent (Program E) household	ACES
	<i>Race:</i> Twenty-one various racial classifications	ACES

CATEGORY	DATA ELEMENT	SOURCE
Geographic	<i>Community Service Office</i>	ACES
	<i>Region</i>	ACES
	<i>Zip Code of Residence:</i> Allows construction of Urban-Rural continuum code	ACES
	<i>County of Residence</i>	ACES
	<i>Economic Indicators:</i> County unemployment rate, county annual employment growth, total county non-seasonal employment	Bureau of Labor Statistics
Financial (1998 Dollars)	<i>Earned Income (TANF):</i> Reported earned income (and hours) while receiving TANF or Food Stamp benefits	ACES
	<i>Unearned Income (TANF):</i> Reported non-wage income while receiving TANF or Food Stamp benefits	ACES
	<i>TANF Benefit:</i> Total AFDC/TANF grant	ACES
	<i>Food Stamp Benefit:</i> Dollar value of food stamp benefit	ACES
	<i>Child Support Payment:</i> Child support payments made directly to parent	SEMS
	<i>Child Care Subsidy:</i> Total value of child care subsidy received by family	SSPS
	<i>Child Care Co-Payment:</i> Total child care co-payment made by family	SSPS
	<i>Quarterly Wages:</i> Earned income as reported in Unemployment Insurance wage and hours file	UI (Employment Security)
	<i>Quarterly Hours:</i> Hours worked as reported in Unemployment Insurance wage and hours file	UI (Employment Security)
	<i>Work History:</i> Number of quarters worked in the last two years, highest quarterly earnings in the last two years, average quarterly earnings in the last two years	UI (Employment Security)
Program	<i>Exempt:</i> Age of youngest child less than 3 months and no recorded WorkFirst activity (12 months prior to 7/99)	ACES/JAS
	<i>Sanction:</i> WorkFirst sanction for refusal to participate	ACES
	<i>Medicaid:</i> Client received transitional Medicaid	ACES
	<i>Starting Activity:</i> First activity category that client started after August 1997 (Alternative Services, Job Search, Working, Exempt, Sanction, No Initial Activity, Other WF Activities)	ACES/JAS
	<i>WorkFirst Activities:</i> See next page	JAS

WorkFirst JAS Activity Codes: December 1999

CATEGORY	CODE	DEFINITION
Working	CJ	Paid Community Job – Subsidized
	FT	Working Full Time – 30 or more hours/wk (self reported)
	PT	Working Part Time – 29 or less hours/wk (self reported)
	OT	On the Job Training – Subsidized
	SF	Working Full Time – Self-employed (self reported)
	SP	Working Part Time – Self-employed (self reported)
Post-Employment	CA	Career Advancement
	RS	Employment Retention
	LE	Labor Exchange
	PS	WPLEX Contact
Looking for Work	JI	Initial Job Search
	JS	Job Search
	JW	Job Search Workshop
Preparing for Work	BE	Basic Education
	CC	Caring for Child of WorkFirst Participant
	ES	English as a Second Language
	ET	Entrepreneurial Training
	GE	General Educational Development certificate
	HS	High School
	JT	Job Skills Training
	PE	Pre-employment Training
	VE	Vocational Education
	WE	Work Experience
	XS	Structured Community Service
Deferrals (new codes as of 7/99)	XB	Pursuing SSI/L&I/VA or Other Benefits
	XC	No child care available. No available care for an incapacitated adult.
	XD	In a DVR/DDD plan
	XF	Family/Domestic Violence Intervention
	XH	Resolution of Homelessness
	XM	Counseling/anger management. Drug, alcohol or mental health treatment. Temporary incapacity, medical treatment.
	XN	Caring for a child with special needs.
	XP	Parenting skills, nutrition classes, choosing child care and family planning for pregnant clients or have children less than 12 months of age. May be used for other participants needing these classes.
	XR	55 & older caretaker relative

Number of Persons Enrolled in WorkFirst Activities: August 1997-November 1999

JAS Code	Description	Aug-97	Sep-97	Oct-97	Nov-97	Dec-97	Jan-98	Feb-98	Mar-98	Apr-98	May-98	Jun-98	Jul-98	Aug-98	Sep-98
CJ	Paid Community Job – Subsidized				1	1	2	2	3	3	5	32	75	103	166
OT	On the Job Training – Subsidized	42	60	66	92	86	137	170	170	184	204	182	179	181	166
CA	Career Advancement	1	3	4	6	4	4	4	3	3	3	2	2	6	24
RS	Employment Retention	30	34	27	20	36	40	45	60	92	158	215	360	531	1,195
LE	Labor Exchange	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	15	62
PS	WPLEX Contact			1	1	1	4	4	6	8	9	15	36	826	1,312
JI	Initial Job Search	798	611	487	343	217	74	59	55	47	44	42	34	454	2,060
JS	Job Search	4,499	5,453	6,573	7,259	8,709	9,365	10,513	11,580	10,640	9,687	10,578	10,503	10,269	9,336
JW	Job Search Workshop	615	1,609	2,515	2,364	3,543	4,427	4,286	4,688	3,805	3,173	4,004	3,363	3,770	3,471
BE	Basic Education	241	251	272	224	243	239	244	265	273	290	350	319	350	363
CC	Caring for Child of WorkFirst Participant			5	11	9	1	1							
ES	English as a Second Language	1,256	1,291	1,448	1,368	1,335	1,217	1,261	1,359	1,229	1,262	1,310	970	983	1,045
ET	Entrepreneurial Training														
GE	General Educational Development certificate	2,202	2,145	2,086	1,751	1,589	1,326	1,255	1,250	1,207	1,163	1,100	867	815	841
HS	High School	728	832	843	816	921	1,029	1,118	1,289	1,933	3,299	5,427	5,223	5,739	6,659
JT	Job Skills Training	1,346	1,520	1,492	1,339	1,248	1,185	1,152	1,111	1,010	981	1,067	665	585	634
PE	Pre-employment Training	40	73	57	83	124	178	175	230	245	282	262	255	266	358
VE	Vocational Education	15	32	62	80	91	101	120	152	194	194	220	181	179	243
WE	Work Experience	1,327	1,170	975	605	561	482	524	687	849	1,092	1,319	1,367	1,384	1,548
XS	Structured Community Service	4	6	8	26	31	60	89	127	178	230	366	408	421	528
XU	Alternative Services	34	57	99	235	439	1,029	1,495	2,355	3,515	5,336	8,055	9,016	10,507	12,766
XB	Pursuing SSI/L&I/VA or Other Benefits						1	3	4	4	9	13	18	22	25
XC	No child care available. No available care for an incapacitated adult.										1	1	4	7	10
XD	In a DVR/DDD plan									1	1	2	2	2	6
XF	Family/Domestic Violence Intervention										1	1	1	1	1
XH	Resolution of Homelessness														
XM	Counseling/anger management. Drug, alcohol or mental health treatment. Temporary incapacity, medical treatment.						1	4	6	9	12	14	15	17	18
XN	Caring for a child with special needs.														
XP	Parenting skills, nutrition classes, choosing child care and family planning for pregnant clients or have children less than 12 months of age.														1
XR	55 & older caretaker relative														

Number of Persons Enrolled in WorkFirst Activities: August 1997-November 1999

JAS Code	Description	Oct-98	Nov-98	Dec-98	Jan-99	Feb-99	Mar-99	Apr-99	May-99	Jun-99	Jul-99	Aug-99	Sep-99	Oct-99	Nov-99
CJ	Paid Community Job – Subsidized	197	230	265	303	339	409	429	446	554	755	921	1,108	1,299	1,468
OT	On the Job Training – Subsidized	195	194	186	162	158	158	150	127	119	112	125	119	109	103
CA	Career Advancement	32	30	35	43	41	55	77	80	95	97	101	127	131	132
RS	Employment Retention	1,403	1,893	2,212	2,514	2,822	3,373	4,084	4,827	5,611	6,182	7,080	7,925	8,308	8,912
LE	Labor Exchange	93	112	121	112	111	113	106	48	44	40	37	33	31	31
PS	WPLEX Contact	1,898	2,134	2,507	2,693	3,143	4,553	5,832	6,655	7,588	8,082	8,383	8,690	8,912	8,825
JI	Initial Job Search	3,138	3,142	3,293	3,824	3,761	3,969	3,524	3,237	3,424	3,400	3,742	3,668	3,564	3,956
JS	Job Search	8,853	8,011	7,995	8,016	7,346	7,154	6,369	5,344	5,444	5,301	5,665	5,557	5,238	5,012
JW	Job Search Workshop	3,712	2,944	2,671	2,814	2,377	2,626	2,188	1,787	1,796	1,887	1,884	1,801	1,631	1,576
BE	Basic Education	399	416	420	420	456	481	493	505	516	516	531	606	660	732
CC	Caring for Child of WorkFirst Participant														
ES	English as a Second Language	1,286	1,320	1,357	1,395	1,411	1,518	1,521	1,487	1,501	1,269	1,279	1,368	1,404	1,473
ET	Entrepreneurial Training							1	1	1	1	3	3	2	4
GE	General Educational Development certificate	861	839	833	853	932	1,052	1,175	1,252	1,491	1,309	1,328	1,570	1,731	1,886
HS	High School	7,346	7,322	7,305	7,249	7,248	7,289	7,329	7,241	7,219	6,506	6,950	7,445	7,858	8,395
JT	Job Skills Training	623	621	595	613	624	672	739	764	822	842	954	1,079	1,177	1,187
PE	Pre-employment Training	507	479	466	609	673	788	922	951	978	934	893	913	1,014	1,102
VE	Vocational Education	266	269	268	270	261	306	393	390	394	345	334	433	436	457
WE	Work Experience	1,820	1,959	2,012	2,131	2,128	2,313	2,276	2,230	2,296	2,124	2,116	2,127	2,148	2,171
XS	Structured Community Service	547	503	475	499	473	540	567	645	798	906	1,004	1,088	1,054	1,053
XU	Alternative Services	14,976	14,666	15,274	15,323	15,352	15,802	15,266	15,006	15,055	10,485	5,162	3,147	1,776	1,329
XB	Pursuing SSI/L&I/VA or Other Benefits	33	36	46	55	66	81	98	138	228	1,649	2,292	2,727	2,967	3,229
XC	No child care available. No available care for an incapacitated adult.	12	16	25	43	60	80	109	150	250	1,519	2,115	2,455	2,773	3,162
XD	In a DVR/DDD plan	6	8	8	12	13	15	17	22	43	254	317	400	457	477
XF	Family/Domestic Violence Intervention	2	2	3	4	4	4	7	8	21	200	310	394	428	482
XH	Resolution of Homelessness						1	2	5	22	457	839	1,178	1,249	1,339
XM	Counseling/anger management. Drug, alcohol or mental health treatment. Temporary incapacity, medical treatment.	26	29	37	47	56	84	115	193	437	2,997	4,443	5,588	6,442	7,185
XN	Caring for a child with special needs.	3	6	7	8	8	9	11	15	29	218	284	352	396	440
XP	Parenting skills, nutrition classes, choosing child care and family planning for pregnant clients or have children less than 12 months of age.	2	2	3	3	12	24	32	56	96	1,306	2,390	3,205	3,746	4,596
XR	55 & older caretaker relative		1	1	1	1	2	1	1	4	83	70	94	97	101